CLAIMS

What is claimed is:

1. A method for assaying a chemical comprising:

providing an extraction solution and a predetermined amount of an internal standard in a container;

collecting a sample at a first location;

placing the sample in the container;

transporting the container including the sample from the first location to a second location; and

quantitatively measuring an amount of the chemical in the extraction solution at the second location.

2. The method according to claim 1, further comprising:

quantifying an amount of the internal standard at the second location; and

comparing the amount of the quantified internal standard with the predetermined amount of the internal standard.

3. The method according to claim 1, wherein providing an extraction solution and a predetermined amount of an internal standard comprises sending a kit having the container including the extraction solution and the predetermined amount of the internal standard to the first location.

4. The method according to claim 1, wherein quantitatively measuring the chemical in the extraction solution comprises placing a portion of the extraction solution in a gas chromatograph.

5. The method according to claim 1, further comprising instructing a user on how to collect the sample.

6. The method according to claim 1, further comprising recording information about the sample.

7. The method according to claim 1, wherein said sample is a tuber.

8. The method according to claim 1, wherein said chemical is a pesticide, a disinfectant, a sprout inhibitor, or a sprout suppressant.

9. The method according to claim 1, wherein said chemical is a substituted naphthalene or chlorpropham.

10. The method according to claim 1, further comprising:
calculating a ratio of the measured amount of the internal standard in relation to the predetermined amount of the internal standard; and
calibrating the amount of the measured chemical based on the calculated ratio.

11. The method according to claim 3, further comprising:
placing the container including the sample in the kit; and
wherein transporting the container including the sample comprises transporting the kit having the sample in the container to the second location.

12. A method for analyzing a sprout inhibitor on a tuber comprising:
collecting a tuber sample from the tuber at a first location;
depositing the tuber sample into a container including an extraction solution;
transporting the container including the tuber sample to a second location; and
assaying the sprout inhibitor in the extraction solution at the second location.

13. The method according to claim 12, wherein collecting the tuber sample comprises cutting the tuber sample from the tuber.

14. The method according to claim 12, further comprising:
placing a predetermined amount of an internal standard in the extraction solution;
quantifying an amount of the internal standard in the extraction solution; and
comparing the quantified amount of the internal standard in the extraction solution with the predetermined amount of the internal standard placed in the extraction solution.

15. The method according to claim 12, wherein transporting the container comprises sending a kit including the container, the tuber sample, and the extraction solution to the first location.

16. The method according to claim 12, wherein assaying the sprout inhibitor comprises placing a portion of the extraction solution in a high pressure liquid chromatograph or a gas chromatograph.

17. The method according to claim 12, wherein assaying the sprout inhibitor in the extraction solution comprises quantitatively measuring an amount of the sprout inhibitor.

18. The method according to claim 12, further comprising instructing a user how to collect the tuber sample.

19. The method according to claim 12, further comprising recording information about the tuber sample.

20. The method according to claim 12, further comprising washing the tuber at the first location.

21. The method according to claim 14, further comprising:
placing the container including the tuber sample in the kit; and
wherein transporting the container including the tuber sample comprises sending the kit to the second location.